

Application No. 10/826,061
Response to Office Action

Customer No. 01933

Amendments to the Drawings:

Figs. 5, 19, 22 and 24 have been amended to replace the term
"edition" with "editing."

Attachments: Replacement Sheets
Annotated Sheets

R E M A R K S

Reconsideration of this application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

THE SPECIFICATION

The specification has been amended to correct some minor informalities of which the undersigned has become aware. No new matter has been added, and it is respectfully requested that the amendments to the specification be approved and entered.

THE DRAWINGS

Figs. 5, 19, 22 and 24 have been amended to replace the term "edition" with "editing."

Submitted herewith are corrected sheets of formal drawings which incorporate the amendments and annotated sheets showing the changes made thereto.

No new matter has been added, and it is respectfully requested that the amendments to the drawings be approved and entered.

THE CLAIMS

Claim 1 has been amended based on (now canceled) claims 7 and 8 and the disclosure in the specification at, for example, page 33, line 20 to page 39, line 25.

In addition, claim 9 has been amended to be rewritten in independent form and to more clearly recite the features of the present invention based on the disclosure in the specification at, for example, page 39, line 26 to page 46, line 15.

Still further, independent claim 11 has been amended along the lines of amended claim 1, based on (now canceled) claims 16 and 17 and the disclosure in the specification at, for example, page 33, line 20 to page 39, line 25; and claim 18 has been amended to be rewritten in independent form based on amended independent claim 9.

Yet still further, independent claim 19 has been amended to recite subject matter along the lines of amended independent claims 1 and 11, and to better comply with the requirements of 35 USC 101.

And finally, claims 1-6, 9, 11-15, 18 and 19 have also been amended to make some minor grammatical improvements and to correct some minor antecedent basis problems so as to more clearly and positively recite the features of the present invention in better U.S. form.

No new matter has been added, and it is respectfully requested that the amendments to the claims be approved and entered.

It is respectfully submitted, moreover, that claims 2, 3, 12, 13 and 19 are all in full compliance with the requirements of

35 USC 112 and 35 USC 101, and it is respectfully requested that the rejections thereunder be withdrawn.

CLAIM FEE

The application was originally filed with 19 claims of which 3 were independent. The application now contains 14 claims, of which 5 are independent. Accordingly, a claim fee in the amount of \$400 for the addition of 2 extra independent claims is attached hereto. In addition, authorization is hereby given to charge any additional fees which may be determined to be required to Account No. 06-1378.

THE PRIOR ART REJECTION

Claims 1, 2, 4-8, 11, 12, 14, 15 and 19 were rejected under 35 USC 102 as being anticipated by one or more of EP 1 067 748 ("Sato et al"), USP 5,907,604 ("Hsu"), US 2002/0094806 ("Kamimura"), EP 1 033 857 ("Ito") and EP 0 930 770 ("Aoki et al"); and claims 2, 6-10, 12 and 15-19 were rejected under 35 USC 103 as being obvious in view of various combinations of Aoki et al, JP 2001-274979 ("Koyama"), US 2002/0049071 ("Bjorn"), Sato et al and Kamimura. These rejections, however, are respectfully traversed with respect to the claims as amended hereinabove.

According to the present invention as recited in amended claim 1, an imaging apparatus with a communication function is

provided which comprises: a communication unit; an image pickup unit which is capable of picking up image data of various sizes; an address book memory which stores address data to be used in communication by the communication unit, and which stores image data picked up by the image pickup unit in association with the address data; a mode setting unit which sets one of a creation mode to create address data to be stored in the address book memory and an editing mode to edit the address data stored in the address book memory; and a size setting unit which sets a size of image data to be picked up by the image pickup unit. According to the present invention as recited in amended claim 1, moreover, when the image pickup unit is activated when one of the creating mode and the editing mode is set, the setting unit prohibits setting at least one of the various sizes of image data that the image pickup unit is capable of picking up, and the prohibited at least one size comprises any size that exceeds a predetermined size.

Similarly, independent method claim 11 has been amended to recite subject matter along the lines of amended claim 1, and independent recording medium/computer program claim 19 has been amended to recite subject matter including the subject matter of amended independent claim 11.

With the structure of the present invention as recited in the amended claims, when the image pickup unit is activated while

a mode for creating or editing address data has been set, the sizes that may be set for the image data to be picked up are limited so that sizes greater than a predetermined size cannot be set.

For example, as shown in Fig. 24 and as explained in detail at page 33, line 19 to page 39, line 25, the sizes of image data that can be picked up when the image pickup unit is activated from an address data creating or editing mode may be limited to "mobile" (120 x 160) or "wallpaper" (240 x 320), while sizes such as VGA (640 x 480), SXGA (1280 x 960), UXGA (1600 x 1200) and Panorama (1280 x 320) are prohibited (see the shaded area indicating prohibited sizes, and functions).

The size of an image in the address book is limited to, for example, the wallpaper (full-screen) size and the standard mobile phone display size. Therefore, if the communication device has a megapixel(s) camera, many of the sizes that can be captured by the megapixel(s) camera are not necessary for use with the address book. Indeed, if an image is captured for use in the address book that is of a larger size, then resizing and/or trimming is required to use the image with the address book. This processing can be manually or automatically performed (see claims 9 and 18), but is advantageously avoided with the structure of the present invention as recited in claims 1, 11

and 19, in order to reduce the burden on the hardware or operator.

Therefore, even though many image sizes can be picked up with the image pickup device of the electronic device of the present invention as recited in amended independent claims 1, 11 and 19, only a few sizes are desirable when the image pickup is activated from the address book (address data creation/editing). For this reason, when the image pickup unit is activated when one of the creating mode and the editing mode is set, the setting unit prohibits setting at least one of the various sizes of image data that the image pickup unit is capable of picking up, and the prohibited at least one size comprises any size that exceeds a predetermined size. Thus, according to the present invention as recited in amended independent claims 1, 11 and 19, image pickup performed from the address book may be performed without presenting an array of potential image size options that will not be useful for the purpose of the image (e.g., use with the address book).

In addition, according to the present invention as recited in amended independent claim 9, an imaging apparatus with a communication function is provided which comprises: a communication unit; an image pickup unit which is capable of picking up image data of various sizes; an address book memory which stores address data to be used in communication by the

communication unit, and which stores image data picked up by the image pickup unit in association with the address data; a mode setting unit which sets one of a creation mode to create address data to be stored in the address book memory an editing mode to edit the address data stored in the address book memory; a size setting unit which sets a size of image data picked up by the image pickup unit; and a reduced image creation unit which creates reduced image data of the image data picked up by the image pickup unit. According to the present invention as recited in amended independent claim 9, moreover, the address book memory stores the reduced image data created by the reduced image creation unit when the image pickup unit is activated when one of the creating mode and the editing mode is set and when the size of the image data set by the size setting unit is equal to or greater than a predetermined size.

Amended independent method claim 18, moreover, recites subject matter along the lines of amended independent claim 9.

And with this structure, all the potential pickup sizes are selectable even if the camera mode is activated from the address book (creating/editing of address data). See the disclosure in the specification at page 39, line 27 to page 46, line 15. As a result, the user does not encounter a strange or limited screen when activating the image pickup unit from the address book.

However, since large image sizes are not useful for the address book (see above), when sizes larger than a predetermined size (e.g., VGA or larger) are selected, a reduced image (e.g., a thumbnail 120 x 160 image generated based on the DCF standard (complying with the Exif standard)) is stored in the address book memory instead of the full picked-up image. In this connection, reference can be made to original image data, for example, by referring to a data folder.

Thus, with the structure of the present invention as recited in amended independent claims 9 and 18, the image having the necessary size for the address book is created and stored without having to present to the user a strange limited screen and while allowing an arbitrary pickup size to be selected, when the image pickup unit is activated from the address book (creating/editing address data).

It is respectfully submitted that none of the cited references disclose, teach or suggest the above described features of the present invention as recited in amended independent claims 1, 9, 11, 18 and 19.

In particular, it is respectfully submitted that (even taken in combination) the cited references fail to disclose, teach or suggest prohibiting the setting of a size that exceeds a predetermined size when the image pickup unit is activated when one of the creating mode and the editing mode is set, as recited

in amended independent claims 1, 11 and 19, or that the address book memory stores the reduced image data when the image pickup unit is activated when one of the creating mode and the editing mode is set.

In addition, it is respectfully submitted that Koyama, which has been cited with respect to claims 9 and 18, merely discloses that the data size monitoring device 16 monitors the size (data volume) of personal data which includes an additional data file in preparation of a phonebook, and that a guidance message is displayed to inhibit an input of data so that the size of the personal data does not exceed a limit (paragraph [0031]). As shown in Fig. 4 of Koyama, the number of images (frames) which can be added to the phonebook is calculated and displayed (paragraph [0057] and [0058]), and this number is calculated for every photograph mode, i.e., normal mode and economy mode. If the number is "0", a "photograph" button is inhibited to be operated (paragraph [0061]). As a result, the size of the personal data can be restricted by restricting the total capacity of the image data to be added to the personal data (paragraph [0067]). Thus, although Koyama discloses monitoring a volume of input data, it is respectfully submitted that this reference does not disclose, teach or suggest restricting the size of the image data when the image pickup device is activated when one of the address data creation mode and the address data edition mode is set, as

according to the present invention as recited in amended independent claims 9 and 18.

Similarly, Bjorn also merely discloses monitoring a data volume and flagging data, which may be image data, for transfer or deletion when the storage capacity is approached.

Neither Koyama nor Bjorn, however, discloses that the address book memory stores the reduced image data when the image pickup unit is activated when one of the creating mode and the editing mode is set, as according to the present invention as recited in amended independent claims 9 and 18.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that amended independent claims 1, 9, 11, 18 and 19, as well as each of claims 2-6 and 12-15 depending respectively from claims 1 and 11, all clearly patentably distinguishes over all of the cited references, taken singly or in combination, under 35 USC 102 as well as under 35 USC 103.


RE: CERTIFIED COPY OF THE PRIORITY DOCUMENT

It is respectfully requested that the Examiner acknowledge receipt of the certified copy of the priority document, which was filed with the original application papers on April 15, 2004, and which is present in the Image File Wrapper of the present application, as evidenced by the attached contents listing of the IFW of the present application.

In view of the foregoing, entry of this Amendment, allowance of the claims and the passing of this application to issue are respectfully solicited.

If the Examiner has any comments, questions, objections or recommendations, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the telephone number given below for prompt action.

Respectfully submitted,


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encs.

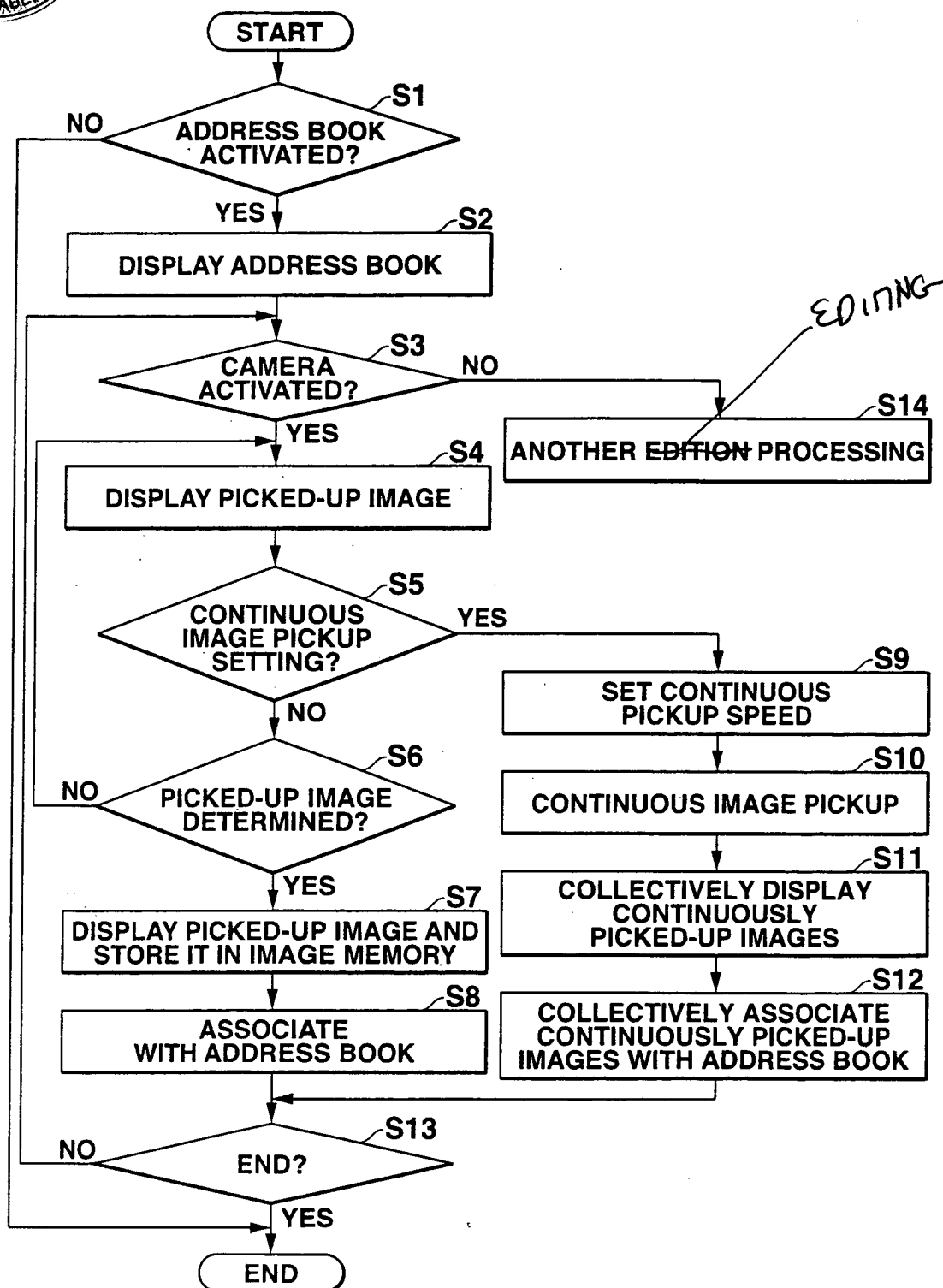


FIG.5

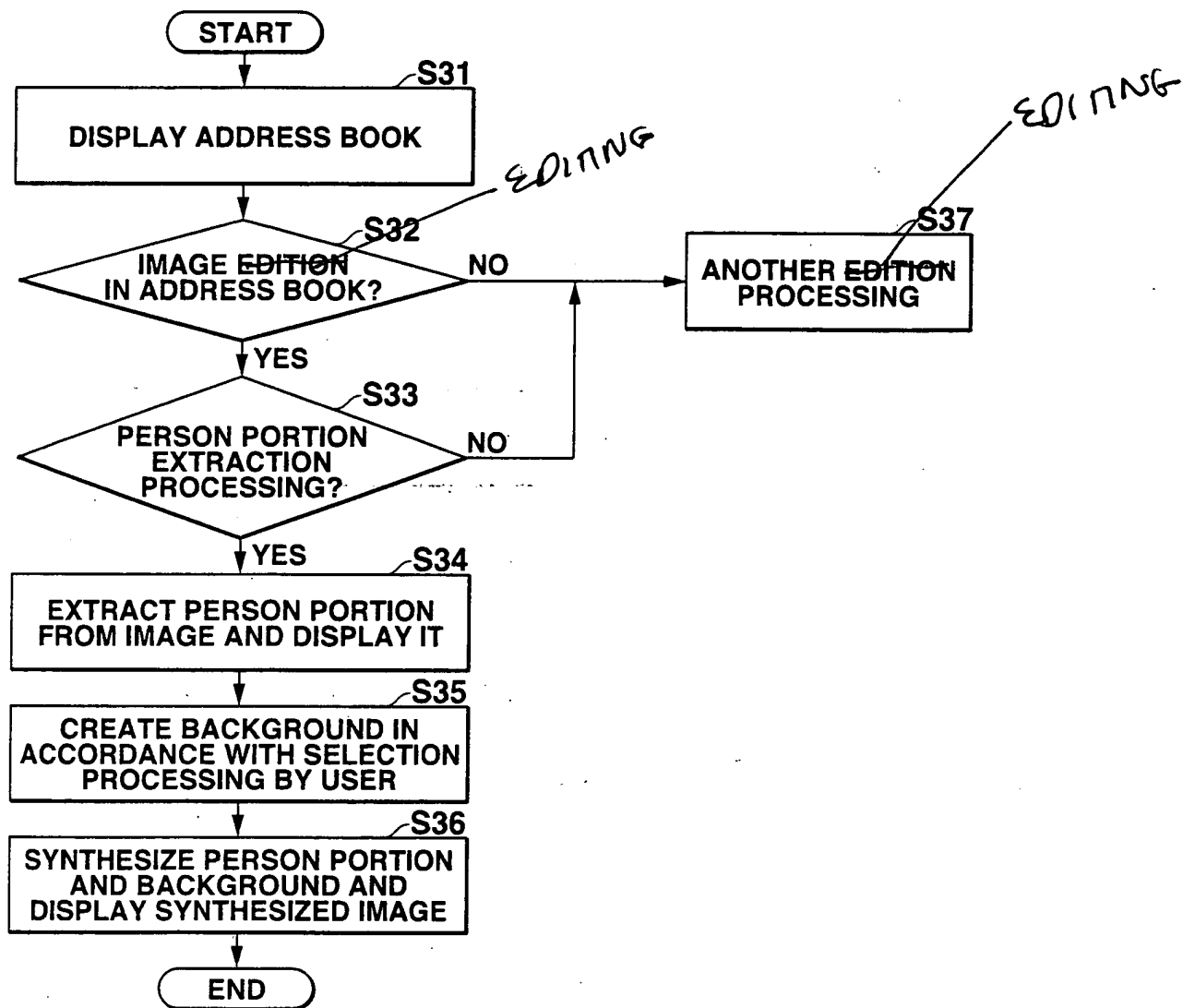


FIG.19

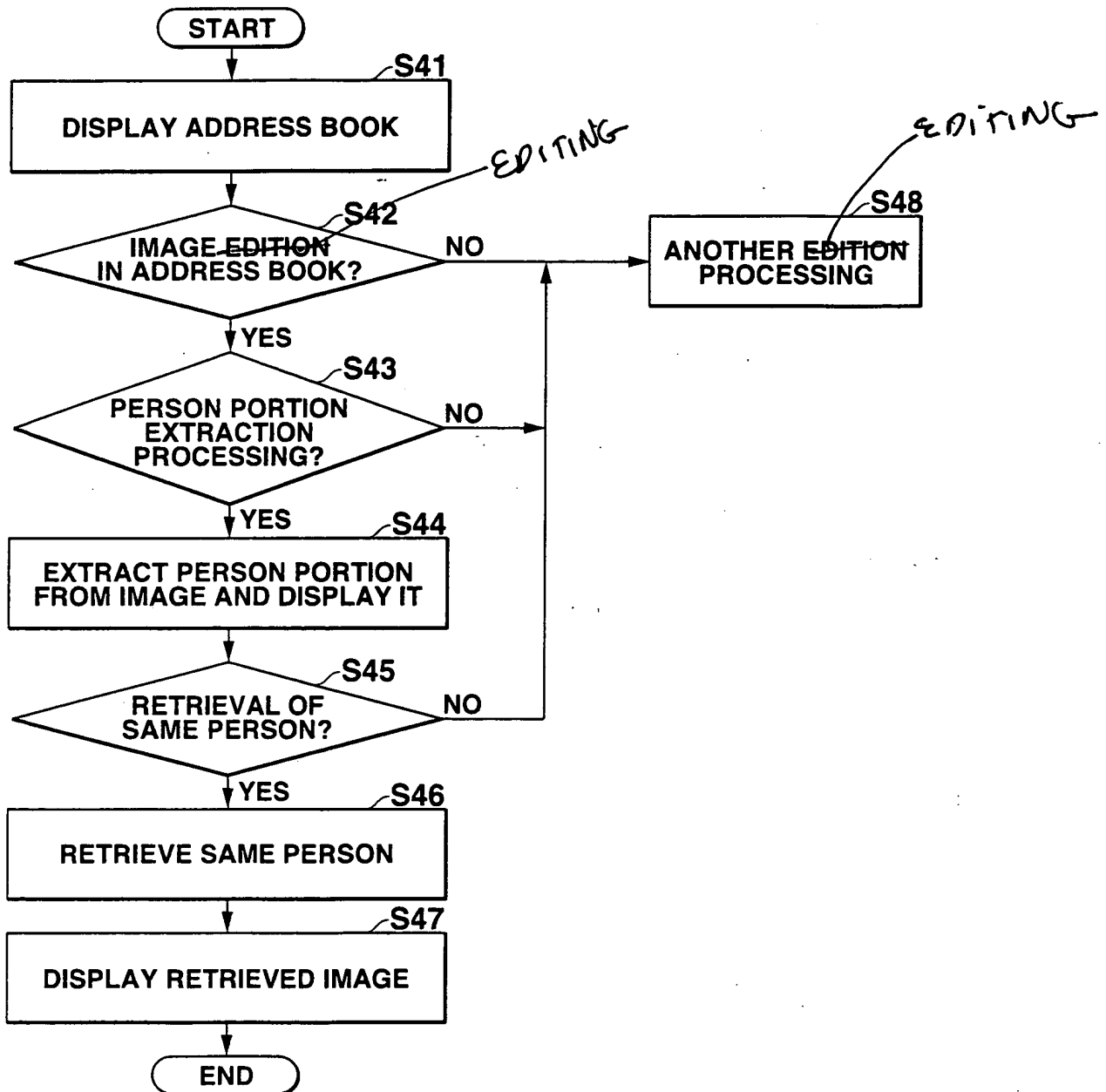


FIG.22

16 *EDITING*

CAMERA (PHOTOGRAPHY) ITEM	ACTIVATION OF CAMERA DURING ADDRESS BOOK EDITION (DIFFERENCE FROM ACTIVATION OF CAMERA FROM WAITING STATE)
FRAME	<input type="radio"/>
IMAGE PICKUP EFFECT	<input type="radio"/>
MACRO SETTING	<input type="radio"/>
IMAGE PICKUP LIGHT SETTING	<input type="radio"/>
SELF-TIMER SETTING	<input type="radio"/>
WHITE BALANCE	<input type="radio"/>
IMAGE PICKUP MODE	MOBILE (120×160) <input type="radio"/>
	WALLPAPER (240×320) <input type="radio"/>
	VGA (640×480) ×
	SXGA (1280×960) ×
	UXGA (1600×1200) ×
	PANORAMA (1280×320) ×
	COUPLING SHOT (HORIZONTAL DIVISIONAL PHOTOGRAPHY) <input type="radio"/>
	UP-DOWN SHOT (VERTICAL DIVISIONAL PHOTOGRAPHY) <input type="radio"/>
	CONTINUOUS IMAGE PICKUP <input type="radio"/> FULL SAVING AFTER CONTINUOUS IMAGE PICKUP ×
IMAGE QUALITY SETTING	× (SINCE IT IS EFFECTIVE IN PHOTOGRAPHY WITH SIZE EQUAL TO OR ABOVE VGA)
GPS INFORMATION ADDITION	×
IMAGE PICKUP SETTING	<input type="radio"/> (DATE STAMP, SHUTTER SOUND SELECTION, SELF-TIMER TIME, AUTO-FOCUS SETTING, INFORMATION DISPLAY, EMPTY FOLDER CAPACITY)

FIG.24